

INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Indianapolis

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

January 13, 1993

TO: Staff
Residential Sewage Disposal Section

FROM: Alan M. Dunn, Chief *AMO*
Residential Sewage Disposal Section

SUBJECT: Are Perimeter Drains A Part of the
Residential Sewage Disposal System

A perimeter drain which is required for the alleviation of soil wetness at an absorption field site is a part of the residential sewage disposal system, as defined by ISDH Rule 410 IAC 6-8.1-17. This section of our rule states that a residential sewage disposal system "means all equipment and devices necessary for proper conduction, collection, storage, treatment, and on-site disposal of sewage..." The installation and use of a perimeter drain where required due to the adverse effects that a seasonal high water table would have on the absorption field is certainly necessary for the proper treatment of the wastewater by the soil.

Separation distances for perimeter drains are covered only by Section 43(d) and (e) of the rule. Table II of Section 37(a) does not cover perimeter drain separation distances. The separation distances for drainage tiles in Table II covers drainage tiles which are not perimeter drain tiles. The separation distances from property lines do not apply to perimeter drains.

It should be noted, also, that if any portion of the drainage system associated with a residential sewage disposal system is constructed on property other than that from which the sewage originates, easements which grant permission for such construction and access for maintenance must be obtained and recorded by the proper authority or commission [Section 31(h).]

If you have any questions about this topic, please let me know.